

Abstract

A gas generator [(30)] is provided with a metal housing [(3)] constituted by an initiator shell [(1)] and a closure shell [(2)], a combustion chamber [(5)] which is formed inside the housing [(3)] and into which gas generants [(4)] generating a high-temperature gas through combustion are loaded, a filter member [(6)] disposed around the combustion chamber [(5)], an igniter [(7)] mounted into the housing [(3)] and igniting and burning the gas generants [(4)] inside the combustion chamber [(5)] and a plurality of gas discharge openings [(8a, 8b)] formed on the housing [(3)] and discharging the gas generated in the combustion chamber (5),

~~and in which either or both of the initiator shell (1) and the closure shell (2) constituting the housing (3) are provided with semi-spherical or semi-oval end plate portions (14, 10) and cylindrical portions (13, 9) having a diameter D formed continuously from these end plate portions (14, 10), H/D or a ratio of the bottom distance H between the end plate portion (14) of the initiator shell (1) and that (10) of the closure shell (2) to the diameter D of the cylindrical portions (13, 9) is in the range from 0.4 to 1.3 and (A/A_t) of a ratio of the total sum (A) of the surface areas of gas generants (4) to the total sum (A_t) of the opening areas of the gas discharge openings (8a, 8b) is in excess of 1300 and not more than 2000.~~